THE SATURDAY EVENING POST.

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A FAMILY NEWSPAPER: NEUTRAL IN POLITICS: DEVOTED TO GENERAL NEWS, LITERATURE, SCIENCE, MORALITY, AGRICULTURE AND AMUSEMENT.

VOLUME XXVII. PHILADELPHIA, SATURDAY, JANUARY 29, 1848. WHOLE NO. 1383.

Original Poetry.

MABEL GRAY.

WRITTEN FOR THE SATURDAY EVENING POST, BY W. B. HART.

Mr Mabel Gray was troubled—through her dark waving hair,
Is its transcendent beauty shorn a queenly brow and fair?
But ill-fed world o'tears and sighs must veil the brightest gem away,
I little thought so soon to lose my precious Mabel Gray!

I married the deep flush on her cheek, the light of her dark eye,
The nerve looked more timidly, yet they told me she was happy—
And my heart was well when one for love of Mabel Gray.

It's well her laugh was gladsome as e'er before had been,
And at night gathered merry sports ere a yet she was the queen—
Her at times grief of even tide, the Bible by her knee,
And reading from an ancient page I loved to; Mabel Gray.

The sun had set in golden light behind the distant hill,
When I wandered out with Mabel, and the shade by seven were still;
My rose was clasped around her waist, and on her Spoke hope and peace and confidence—my genius guardian, Mabel Gray.

She and Death's next was on her brow, his hand upon her heart,
Even now I feel his icy breath, and she must soon depart—
The spirit see, of when she was gone—send the light and gay—
If I wander will forget my own, my loving Mabel Gray!

And then she told me of a hope, a hope I had not Mabel Gray!
That kept the fainting spirit up till life's last breath had fled—
The Christian's hope—a joyful hope, she trusted in and she trusted not now to die, my blessed Mabel Gray!

Tell the glad and joyous spring-time still Mabel lingered on,
Till the chilling waters of winter and its rude blasts were gone
But when the leaves were bursting in the gentle month of May,
The grass and flowers were springing on the grave of Mabel Gray.

I am an old man now, for more than three score years and ten,
With these crowns and changes and their sorrows I have seen,
But not yet come has been, to pause, I say upon my way,
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Burton (that was the young man's name) was the son of a farmer, in moderate circumstances, at home, at school, everywhere, the "Poor Richards" philosophy had been so earnestly taught him as the creed and articles of faith—yea, more earnestly taught him; for the creed and articles were taught on one day or two in the week, and the "Richard" philosophy during the other six. Burton had naturally a sound, well balanced mind, and under a different system of early training would have made a better merchant. But the "Richard" philosophy was money-making. The two commandments were too well remembered to permit him to become a common plunderer; but all manner of sharp bargains that his ingenuity could suggest, were considered but as tools, and practised on every fitting occasion. Yet, keen to be was, Burton so seriously embarrassed himself in the beginning on two or three occasions, that he got gain-making on two or three occasions, that he got himself embarrassed almost hopelessly. Still, he could not make himself a knave, or give up his honesty, and come out as nearly square as possible; but, in the hope of recruiting himself by some fortunate speculation, still kept on buying, selling, and borrowing.

One day, as Burton sat in the back part of his store, pondering the matter, and casting about for future security, a young lady entire, whom regret and possessed a very handsome property—from the hearth, and had resided in Boston for some time with a distant relative of her father. Her parents had been dead for many years.

The young lady asked a various articles which were shown her by a clerk, and as she examined the goods, cast a glance, now and then, at some other articles and express a desire to see them, Burton, with his eyes upon her, moved something after this fashion:

"If I could only win my way into the heart of some one with the substantial virtues she possesses, I might stop my degree at the counter. And why not? For her, although I am poor, and of a class with no them who receive these prizes. 'Faint heart never won fair lady.' Ain't I good looking? Haven't I brains enough to hold my own with most people? Faith! it's a good idea. I'll look about me."

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"Miss L——," he said, in a low voice. "I saw you take a pair of gloves from my store just now, without paying for them. You have them in your muff at the moment!"

Thus suddenly and unexpectedly charged with the crime she had committed, the poor girl turned pale with fear and shame, and trembled so that she could scarcely stand.

"Oh, sir! here they are!" she said, in her alarm and bewilderment. "Take them!—and go—go—leave me, for mercy's sake!" Drawing forth the gloves as she spoke.

"Oh, no, Miss," replied Burton, coldly and sternly. "I can't take them; nor can I leave you. You have been guilty of theft, and must answer to the law for your crime."

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"Come! Where!" asked Miss L——, in an agony of emotion.

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The girl pleaded the wretched creature, turning her beautiful eyes, filled with tears, upon Burton's face. "Oh, you cannot have desired me for that little act of folly. I will remonstrate you pardon, understand that."

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CONDUCTED BY

HENRY PETERSON, EDITOR.

Philadelphia:

SATURDAY, JANUARY 30, 1858.

TERMS.

Single copies, $3 per annum in advance—$2 if not paid in advance.

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NEW SUBSCRIPTIONS.

This is the time when we generally appeal to our readers, to get up clubs and forward their subscriptions for a new year. We have tried during the past year to make a good paper, one both entertaining and instructive, and we trust that our subscribers, if they think we have succeeded, will not only send on their own money for the new year, but will use some exertion among their neighbors and friends to extend our list.

The terms of the Post are so low as those of any other paper of the same size and quality, while paying the matter that has already appeared in a daily, using inferior paper, and purchasing only original articles, we could make up an inferior sheet at a lower price, but it is the pride of the proprietors of the Post to publish an original weekly sheet, printed on good paper, with type that will not rain the eyes of their subscribers. That such newspapers are wanted, and that the country is prepared to pay a fair price for a good article, is fully proven by the success of those papers who have not thought it wise to sacrifice quality to a mere pecuniary consideration. In conclusion we would again take the liberty of reminding our readers, that now is the time to send in their subscriptions, and we earnestly and to say a good word to their neighbors on our behalf. Subscriptions may be sent at our risk.

WEAKNESS OF ENGLAND.

A few years ago it was a very general opinion that the days of violence and bloodshed were drawing to a close. A comparatively long period of almost universal peace seemed to have softened and humanized the heart of man to such an extent, that war was looked upon as a thing of impossible occurrence. Peace conferences were instituted to take root both in this country and in Europe, plans for a Congress of Nations to settle all international disputes without resort to the sword had been suggested and advocated by learned and able men, and in the judgment of many, the world was already at the entrance of that blissful Millennial era, "when nation shall no longer take up the sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more."

How different the aspect of things now. Our own country is engaged in a war, the duration of which is uncertain, and the consequences one of the most momentous character. While Europe seems bent to wrest the South of Lower Philippe, or some service and heavy first blow on the part of one of its great powers, to re-assert the old tragedy of universal conflict which has so long held the nations in a state of fear and distrust, and stunted its fields with blood.

But our thoughts have been drawn more particularly to this subject, by an article we have just read in one of the English political journals (Fraser's) upon the unprotected state of England, which subject not only for the excellency but for the absolute necessity of numerous attended camps and other fortifications, and the large increase of the regular Army. The Duke of Wellington, as we learn from other sources, is on a similar track of the same opinion, and the Ministry have lately brought the subject before the notice of Parliament.

Now the inevitable part of the business is, that the nation on the coast of England, and Scotland, but has had its origin in French threats, and in the feeling that these threats are not merely to be deprecated by words, but by deeds. The Treaty of Paris with Waterloo, which English statesmen and courage have gained of French imprudently said that And then it is that the intimacy of England, in case of another war, has become a matter of the greatest delay of which is much discussed in the French Army and among the French people. We have had occasion to remark upon this discussion in France, have been a similar discussion in England, which has resulted in conclusions far from satisfactory to the statesmen of the latter country.

The plan laid down by the French, "in case of war"—and most immediate in it that such operations should strike at a time when the main force of Britain. Thirty thousand men would be assigned for an expedition to Ireland, of 20,000 to the Channel Islands—while the main body of 150,000 men would be concentrated on the northern borderland of London, and march immediately on that city.

To oppose such an expedition it is more universal in landing, the English regiments are in very small, in the crossing of the channel, the highest naval architecture of Great Britain stands in possessing it entirely superior. It might be effected under cover of a dense fog or a dark night, or other as action with the French covering squadron, which might oblige the British crew of operations, to run into port and rest." Or the French squadron might succeed in evading the British fleet, as often has been the case in past times.

The British regular army is composed of about 180,000 men, scattered over the four quarters of the globe. For the defence of the United Kingdom 45,000 men are all that could be mustered—and of which there, it is said, one-third are kept in hospital at all times. If this be the fact, it is evident that in case of an attempt at invasion by 20,000 Frenchmen, it would take the whole 45,000 to keep Ireland in subjection—leaving England and Scotland to be defended by the militia and volunteer countries.

But notwithstanding this view of things, England, if she could only rely upon the manliness of her population, would not fear an invasion, even upon any extensive of her standing army. But it is evident from the tone of the influential magazine we have referred to, that the confidence which the Great Britain "fear the people. Napoleon, it is well known, secretly hoped for a revolution in Britain he contemplated, upon the dissatisfaction of the lower classes and the war-cry—made of the English magazine are these:—

"From the patriotism of the great mass of our population we have much to hope. The deep and real interest in the independence of a State can they possess whose existence depends for its safety on the gains it can increasing strength with victory and humiliation.

But, even granting that the intense dislike to the French, arising from their old feudal vassal and the manner of the British people to fly to the standard of their country's assailed invasion—and that value would their services be? The time was, when "brave and loyal" were the principal weapons of the defence of the nation, but the intended English peasant was expert in the use of arms—and his new capacity surprised and puzzled the old hands in the business. But the great mass of the population of England are now without arms, and under the modern instruments of destruction. A hundred thousand of the people of Ireland, who should fly to arms to defend their country, would be but little more than an effective body of troops in a week—in the same time, being accustomed to the use of fire-arms, the great difficulty would be already overcome. A hundred thousand Irish, of great constancy, without education, without the Yankee aptitude of turning their hands to anything, and their lives to a hundred useful ends, would, when trained, much less exceed a gun in their life, would acquire at least one useful combination of things—use them for outside in a disciplined enemy. The same Englishman, on the contrary, has a gun, and if he had one, he does not know anything with it—all the game must be reserved for "my land" and his noble friends—and the consequence is, that when an invasion is announced, the people are found totally incompetent to defend either their own hearths or the palaces of the noble sportsmen abroad.

In such a state of affairs we cannot wonder at us blame our British neighbors for resolving upon a large expenditure for fortifications and a large increase of their standing army—for while we see sincere friends of peace, we do not envy our principles to such a condition. Either they would advise England to allow herself to be overrun by her aggressive neighbor, that French persons might be conducted, and French hatred appeased, or "the old spirit" might find its "And just what spirit is the fact, that the weakness of England at the present time, is the result of her former misconduct. In old times, England was so unprovoked as she is now, in one sense—but she then had a powerful navy, and was ever ready to fight for her, and who would have called an one man to interfere in the quarrels of the British Islands—but now—mark the fact—the English people by their own admission, are no longer to be depended upon for the defence of the soil of England and of themselves; but a large number of intelligent men are embodied in favor of them. Oh, terrible admission for a great nation to make! No longer to rely on any power to protect itself. Well may the world ask, how long as a nation likely to exist that has to depend upon mercenary troops in case of a foreign invasion!

And what is the reason of this state of things?—Why are the English people no longer "bold-dogs" in style, as they were termed of old, but trunk and effeminate slaves? Because they no longer have any interest in the soil of England—because they have possessed down to that by the rich aristocracy, of rank and of money. The whole number of landholders in England at the present time is about 30,000; only twenty years ago it was 400,000—and during that time the population has more than doubled. The poor have been growing poorer, and the rich richer. To millions of native born Englishmen, England is no longer a loving mother, but a harsh task master. To use the language of the Magazine from which we have already quoted—"The land of England—the land of our fathers, had a richer, conservative one—

> "After thirty-two-years of undisturbed peace and prosperity, more than one-second of the population of the British islands are paupers or depending on the relief."

Then let Britain, if she be wise, while she entertains no aggressive designs, make the necessary preparations to possess that independence and well-being which is the only true basis of the power of nations." Let her do justice to Ireland—abolish her bar-, of primogeniture and entail—and the people of Britain, in the event of war, will be found to divide rather than to accumulate property. Let her establish a system of education for the people, and the people will need no standing army of 180,000 men to keep them in order, as all they will have to do, is to keep them in order, as all they will have to do, is to keep them in order, as all they will have to do, is

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TRAVELLING AGENTS.

Mr. C. W. JAMES, No. 1 Harrison street, Cincinnati, Ohio, is our general travelling agent for the States of Kentucky, Indiana and Illinois. *J. Dowd, Jr., Gardner Smith, Esq., Edward Smith, J. Dowd, Sen.*, are among Jesse Taylor, *H. Mott* are agts. and *W. Rowan*.

Mr. H. DRAKE, 31 South Tenth street, Philadelphia, is our general travelling agent for the Eastern and South Eastern States. *Reported for the N. Wright, William H. Weld, O. H. P. Rose, John Ellis, Wm. Hall, Jr., Thomas Hall, Jr., Thomas Hall, Sen., Thomas Hall and E. S. James.*

Mr. HENRY L. LEWIS of Montgomery, Alabama, is our general travelling agent for the American south.

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THOMAS SEVERN is our Travelling Agent for Upper Canada.

WILLIAM L. PERSE, Clerk for us in Boston.

IAS. PIERCE, Jr. in New Jersey.

CHAS. H. LOCKWELL will receive subscribers and collect for us in the State of Ohio.

NORTON T. W. Black is the do for New York State.

THE SATURDAY EVENING POST May be received weekly at the Periodical Depot of *REDDING & CO.*, No. 124 Fleet street, London; of *ROBINSON & JONES*, No. 150 Main Street, Dublin.

AGENTS FOR NEWSPAPERS.

At the recent Railroad celebration in New Hampshire, a large number who remained in Lancaster, were early provided with breakfast on the morning of the 4th. A worthy inhabitant of that place declares that he never knew the like on such an occasion there was but one bad for fifty persons.

In this dilemma the following expedient was adopted. The landlord took possession of the bed, and, being much fatigued, were soon sound asleep in their respective rooms. He entered and set up against the wall. This process was repeated till the whole fifty were disposed of.

EARLY MARRIAGES.

The Macon Telegraph thinks the long mooted question of early marriages has at last been settled by Gen. Taylor's coast at Donaldsonville—at least so far as one of the sexes is concerned. The town says:

"The Ladies of Donaldsonville —Transported to beauty and gaiety, the hearts of many of those who have husbands, and early marriage is the order of the day.

The General is sure of the vote of Donaldsonville.

From Washington.

CONGRESSIONAL NEWS.

SENATE.

On the 25th, Mr. Berrien submitted a resolution calling upon the President for reports and other communications from General Taylor, as to the disposition made of the supplies by our troops, referred to in his letter to the Secretary of War.

Mr. Calhoun moved to its amendment, so as to embrace the reports from any other officers on the subject. Mr. Berrien accepted the amendment, and the resolution was then agreed to.

Mr. Dickinson introduced a bill granting to the State of Illinois the right of way through the public lands, for the purpose of constructing a railroad to the Northern Lakes.

Mr. Atherton introduced a bill to modify the Sub-Treasury system.

Mr. Jefferson Davis, from the Military Committee, reported a bill to carry into effect the treaty recently by the establishment of a retired list for disabled officers.

Mr. Niles, from the Post Office Committee, reported a bill to reduce the transportation and weight on all franc letters.

Mr. Mangum moved that he had two objects in introducing his resolution on the subject of the extent of the Executive purpose on the subject of the conquest of Mexico. Secondly, to ascertain what are the opinions of the highest military authority in the country, in relation to the subject.

Mr. Allen said that the secret decency and the propriety of the resolution of the Senator from North Carolina, (Mr. Mangum,) were questionable. He was opposed to any measure that Congress alone would determine the policy to be pursued. The resolution of the Senator from Carolina, (Mr. Mangum,) if true, would be an opinion of the Senate, if not, would be a censure. If true, would be an opinion of the Senate, if not, would be a censure. If true, would be an opinion of the Senate, if not, would be a censure.

Mr. Mangum's motion was then modified by Mr. Mangum, so as to leave it discretionary with the President to call for the opinions of the officers, and then it was his opinion would be detrimental to the public interest. The resolution in this form was agreed to.

The Senate proceeded to the consideration of the Executive business. Mr. Foote executed his resolution, after reviewing Mr. Calhoun's speech, in favor of the acquisition of New Mexico, and California, and certain land-office system, general education and fraternity. He looked forward to a long series of years of prosperity, if this course should be adopted. He was opposed to the wilderness system.

We do not avail ourselves of our present power to make conquests, but in connection with a treaty of cession, we may ultimately find ourselves engaged in the conquest of a desert waste, and of a country of savages.

On the 26th, Mr. Webster presented petitions from Boston, Salem, and other places, of distress, complaining of the unjust operation upon their rights of the section of the Tariff of 1846, imposing ad valorem duties according to weight and measurement, and not imported. Second, from Bedford county, Pa., complaining of the present price of postage. Third, from Mobile, from Mangum's and James of the Uniform act, praying for the restoration of the duty.

Mr. Dickinson presented a petition from the citizens of New Jersey, praying for repeal of the duty of 24 per cent. on the proceeds of the sales of lands.

Mr. Berrien presented a petition from the citizens of Savannah, praying for the adoption of the rates of postage.

Mr. Berrien presented a petition, calling for the letter, &c., written by General Taylor on the subject of the battle of Buena Vista, referred to in a report from the Secretary of War, and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

A message was received from the President containing his reply to the Resolution of Mr. Dayton, calling for the correspondence between him and the late minister of the day, was called up, but on motion of Mr. Allen, was laid on the table and ordered to be printed.

The Senate then proceeded to the consideration of the Ten Regiment Bill. Mr. Clarke being entitled to the floor.

Mr. Clarke, Mr. Jefferson Davis, Clayton, Senior and Foote made explanations on points which had arisen from debate in the course of the day in the Senate. The discussion of the bill was then interrupted by the hour.

The House bill to reorganize the General Land Office was taken up and passed. After which the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

On the 19th, Mr. Bell, from the Military Committee, reported a bill to increase the efficiency of the army, and to provide for the payment of the disabled soldiers. Also a bill to found a military academy at or near Memphis, Tennessee, for the west.

Mr. Vinton, from the Committee of Ways and Means, reported a bill providing for a loan not exceeding twenty-three millions of dollars.

The above bills, with others, were read twice, and committed.

Mr. C. J. Ingersoll submitted a joint resolution, tendering the services of a corps of engineers, to be buried ground, to the memory of the late Mr. Hallam, the distinguished author, and a native of Pennsylvania, at the time of his decease, were read twice.

On motion of Mr. Vinton, the House went into the Committee of the Whole upon the President's message relative to the Treasury circular, and more especially on the subject of slavery.

Mr. Vinton addressed the House in relation to the question of bankruptcy, condemning that the Executive should have issued a circular to the boundary by the constitution and laws of Texas, and the act of annexation, and the joint resolutions. He was in favor of subjugating the power of Mexico so as to compel her to make peace, and of leaving the United States to settle the question of slavery. What the Constitution prescribed should govern regardless of the act of Congress.

On the 20th, Mr. Thomas, a speech against the proposed act of the President in withholding the information required by the amendatory resolution of the House, and abstract from the Journal that Mr. Polk's notes as representative did not correspond with Mr. Polk's views as President.

Some exciting conversation took place between Messrs. Thomas and Vinton, the former charging the latter was retained as special counsel for the Texas Land Company, and the latter denying that he was retained as such.

On the 21st, Mr. Vinton, from the Committee of Ways and Means, reported a bill providing for a loan not exceeding twenty-three millions of dollars.

Mr. Hall of Missouri, followed Mr. Tompkins, and sustained the President. He referred to the Constitutional provision in regard to treaties being ratified by the two-thirds of the Senate, by whom Mr. Gayle contended whether he intended to endorse that declaration and apply it to Mr. Tompkins. Mr. Hall disclaimed any thing personal, and at the conclusion of his remarks the Committee rose and the House adjourned.

The debate was very exciting throughout, and was listened to with great attention by the members, as well as by the occupants of the crowded galleries.

On the 25th, after reading the Journal, Mr. Brodhead rose and announced the decease of Mr. Hemphill, a member of the House of Delegates, on the 16th inst. The duty had been assigned him of making this announcement to the House, and it only remained for him to say a few words as to the life and character of the deceased. Mr. Hemphill was a native of New Jersey, and a graduate of Union College. His father was a distinguished statesman, and the whole family of the highest respectability, &c., &c.

The customary resolutions were passed, and the House adjourned.

On the 26th, Mr. Cocke, of Tennessee, moved a suspension of the rules to enable him to introduce a resolution discharging the Committee of the Whole from the further consideration of the joint resolution authorizing the Commissioners of pensions to appoint temporarily twenty-five additional clerks, and appropriating 7,500 dollars for the purpose. The rules were suspended, when Mr. Cocke introduced the resolution, and the amount of appropriation mentioned in the resolution.

Mr. Cocke explained the reasons for the appointment additional clerks, and advocated the appropriation of increased hours of labor by the clerks already employed on the business, as they could not be obtained, had but little labor to perform but to write up, and put together the statistics of pensioners of the Revolutionary war, which Pennsylvania Avenue, pensioners of the Revolutionary war, which Pennsylvania Avenue, pensioners of the Revolutionary war, which Pennsylvania Avenue,

Selected Poetry.

FROM CHAMBER'S MAGAZINE.

AN HOUR.

BY JAMES HAYARD TAYLOR.

I've left the town, cold winds to blow
Around the eastern bare;
My sunny pathway to the west
Winds downward, green and fair.
And bright-leaved branches rose and grow
Upon the footpost sod;
The face in fragrant passage droops
Beside me as I plod.
Where on the slender crags I ski,
Beside the easterly copse,
And watch the far-off, shining sails
Go down the sunny bay!

I've left the wintry winds of life
Our barren haunts to leave —
The vacant-eyed that grieve you,
The silent, sleepless-by!
Across the lighter sun of summer
My spirit-barque shall go.

I rested not the bosom by their love
Where sweetest memories throng?
A careless cage, beside the streets,
Some chord, with kind and long,
Mingling and blending with its true,
Like one, unsafe to part!

I see, in this a stream that sweeps
Down to the ocean,
Now hiding into silent space,
Now with a flashing gleam
Of triumph, ringing through the deep
Of forest and of stream!

AWAY! away! I hear the horn
Among the hills of Spain.
Where'er it blows, there blow for me
Her warrior-hearts again!
Ho! love their bosoms light the burn,
Along Granada's plain!

I hear the banner's proud flash
The red Crusaders sang,
And the silver horn of Roncevaux,
Then o'er the border rang
Their prince and baron through the day
To the pulsible's reserve sprang!

A beam of burning light I hold —
My good Damascus, give
And the jet-black sleeper that I ride
Was fanded in the Arab land.
And a hundred horsemen, marked in mail,
Follow at my bold command!

Through royal scions spreads our march —
The scimeter-hilts are wet,
The land, rejoicing trumpets pour,
The battle-flags are waved,
And every heart's lips of Infidel
The chieftain, brave and young!

And now, in bright Provençal bower,
A minstrel-knight am I
A gentle lesson on my eye,
Thrice look as scenery;
A chant, as fair as the second Answer,
Thrills to my lips' reply!

I tread the lawns of wondrous Rome,
Crowned with immortal bay,
And myrtals throng the Capitol
To hear my lofty lay;
While according a or the Tiber's feast,
Their clamorous peal ceases!

Oh, triumph such as this years worth
The poet's dower of pain,
Whose lords are bosses on the earth,
But golden in the heaven!
I mine the starry gate of dreams
And walk the dust again!

Selected Articles.

EXPULSION OF THE ACADIANS.

BY EVELINA B——

[The following account of the Expulsion of the Acadians—which is the subject of Longfellow's new poem, Evangeline—cannot be read without mingled indignation and sympathy. Some, so it is getting better, for it was our ancestors who did the cruel thing. We take the account from the Union Magazine:]

So much of the charm of Evangeline is derived from the very formation of the marvelous-the simple dignity and sweetness of the characters, and the they religious tone of the interest, that we are apt to suppose Longfellow did not write as a poet, elsewhere, give his readers the historical fact which supplied him with so exquisite an ideal picture. There are many, doubtless, who have never read the cruel story, and such will be glad to see it in a few words, condensed from the best authority on the subject. To me thinking, the butterfly account of Mr. Longfellow's preface only adds to its beauty. The fact, as given by Haliburton in his history of Nova Scotia, is, in brief, as follows:

Some dispute existing between the English and the French, respecting the territorial limits of both parties, the English claiming the whole of the province of Acadie, since called Nova Scotia, to settle the matter, there ended to Great Britain, in 1713.

Acadie was colonized by an excellent French population. When these good people found their country yielded to England, and themselves or younger subjects of the French king, they were granted to be forced to acknowledge another master. They knew that the French and English were hostile to each other, and they dreaded to be compelled, some time or other, to take up arms against Frenchmen; they, therefore, entreated the English that they might never be forced to so painful a service, and might be excused from taking the oath of allegiance.

This request received no special attention, but, for a time, a kind forbearance was exercised towards them. After a period of forty years, the English government came to the conclusion that these neutral French, as they were termed, would become dangerous in their interests by taking part with the Canadian French, their native enemies. On account of the promised danger, and without the least alleged provocation, or the least show of justice, they took upon themselves to deprive of their possessions this peaceable, prosperous, and unoffending people.

The Acadians had no warning of their fate. At harvest time they were ordered to assemble in a body at several places, and being collected, were told they were prisoners,—that their lands, cattle, and merchandise were no longer their own, but were confiscated by government,—that they might take what they could carry away, but must immediately quit the province.

In one single district, two hundred and fifty-five dwelling houses, eleven barns, eleven mills, a church, were destroyed. Slops were in readiness to convey the prisoners of Acadians to the ports of the Continent,—to Louisiana, to French Guiana in South America, and to distant places in the then British Provinces on the Atlantic.

These people had been remarkable for their industry, their skillful husbandry, their great wealth and their exemplary piety. Their lands produced wheat and corn, pasture and flax, abundantly. Their homes were convenient, and furnished with all things necessary to comfort. Their numerous flocks afforded the wool which was manufactured in the family for their clothing. They had no paper money, and little silver or gold; and their simple exchange of commodities. So little contentions were among them, that courts and lawyers were needless; the wise and experienced decided their small differences. They were Catholics the priests drew up their public acts, wrote their wills, and kept possession of the documents, until death rendered them necessary. They were Catholics the sanctions, the inhabitants showed them one reverential of the lecturer for his ecclesiastical office.

At the time of the dispersion, the Acadians were 18,000 in number. No event existed among them; the poor were few, and the prosperous cheerfully supported them. Their unfortunate people were the cartoons of their own integrity. Had they been the earth which fortunded of them to violate the least affectionate sentiment, they would have rewarded their bosoms, their fields, and their flocks. They good feelings manifested only the innocent simplicity of their habits.

In September, 1755, Colonel Winslow, an officer, ostensibly resident at Marshfield, Plymouth County, Massachusetts, was sent with the King's Commission, to conduct the property of the neutrals, and to expel them, without exception, from the province. Colonel Winslow deeply regretted that he should be employed in this cruel service. He knew, he said, that they were of "the same species" with himself, and "if it was disagreeable to his make and temper" to inflict pain. But first measure, on landing at St. Pre, was to make possession of several hundreds of the most considerable of the men of his settlement. "In consequence of their earnest entreaties, the prisoners were permitted, two at once, to return to visit their unfortunate families, and to say, for the last time, upon their beautiful fields, and their loved and lost homes."

These unhappy men bore their misfortune with fortitude, until they were ordered on board the transport ship, to be distributed among people whom they knew not, and whose language, and religion, were opposed to all they held dear and sacred.

On the 10th of September, the prisoners were driven up six deep; and the young men, one hundred and sixty in number, were ordered to go on board the vessels. They refused to do so, unless their families might be permitted to accompany them. This was denied, and the soldiers were ordered to do their duty. The wretched Acadians no longer resisted, but marched from the chapel of St. Pre to the ships.

The road from the chapel to the shore, just one mile in length, was crowded with fathers and children, who, on their knees, and with eyes and hands raised to Heaven, mingled blessings on their young friends, as unmercifully torn from them. Some of the latter broke and tore their garments; others prayed aloud; not another portion sang mournful hymns, as they took their way to the ships. The scenes deserved mutual embraces and their departure occasioned a similar scene of distress. Other roads arrived, and their wives and children followed. Their dwellings were burnt before their eyes, and the crackling of devouring flames was complete. Eighteen thousand neat cows and forth upon the pitiless world. Desolate and dispossessed, they were hunted for their lives. Some of the latter broke out into bitter lamentations